

Leeming RAF Primary School Newsletter



December 2016

Dear all,

Well, we've reached the end of term, we've sung our carols and had our parties, and we're all, I'm sure, looking forward to enjoying the Christmas holidays with our families.

Just a short newsletter today to catch you all up with a bit of the Christmas merriment that has been going on here at school over the last few weeks. The festivities started with a brilliant production by Key Stage 1 of 'Ralph the Reindeer'. Poor Ralph (with his shining green nose) wanted to help out when Rudolph fell ill, but he couldn't fly, no matter how hard he tried. He tried to learn from all his friends – the aeroplanes, fairies, owls, bats, butterflies, kites... but to no avail. Thankfully, he discovered a hidden talent for music, and was able to charm Rudolph back to health!



We were then treated to a lovely Nativity play by the Reception children. They retold the story of the first Christmas complete with all the characters – Mary, Joseph, magi, angels, shepherds, innkeepers, soldiers, stars and animals in the stable - complete with song and dance. A real achievement when most are just four years old!



Then onto the Key Stage 2 Carols round the tree. I was treated to hearing all their rehearsals from my office, and it certainly got me into the Christmas mood! I'm sure those of you who were able to make it will agree!



My grateful thanks to all the staff, helpers and parent volunteers who have worked so hard to put all of the above together – your efforts are much appreciated.

And that's not to mention the Christmas parties, our choir's trip to sing for local OAPs, the Friends of School fayre, the Christmas lunch (thanks to the wonderful Mrs. Taylor, the kitchen staff and our MSAs) and, of course, Father Christmas' visit! As you can see, it's been a very busy few weeks at Leeming!

Diary Dates – these will be coming out in January, looking ahead across the Spring term for what we'll be doing, so do keep an eye out for these.

Governor Update – further to the nomination papers sent out recently for a parent governor, I'm pleased to inform you that Mr. Phillip Thompson has been appointed to this post. Mr. Thompson was appointed without the requirement for a ballot, being the only candidate nominated for the position. Mr. Thompson's membership of the governing body will therefore begin straight away, and we look forward to working with him.

Our governors work really hard, partnering with the senior staff to lead the school strategically. They've been busy this term developing policies, monitoring the school's work, and overseeing the finances and overall direction of Leeming. A governor newsletter will be produced in the new year to give a little more detail about who they are and what they do.

Service Pupil Premium – a piece of work commissioned by our governors was to provide parents with a little more information about how we spend the 'Service Pupil Premium'; what this fund is for, and our rationale behind its allocation. We have therefore compiled a 'Guide for Stakeholders' to accompany our spending statements, all of which are available on our website, under 'School Information > Pupil Premium' - we hope this will be of interest.

Cheques – many thanks to those who are helping the office by keeping up to date with payments for lunches etc. May I remind parents that the payee name for cheques has to be accurate and written as "NYCC Leeming RAF Community Primary School" (it's hard to fit on, apologies!) – any variation of this and I'm afraid that the cheque will 'bounce'. Thanks.

Postings and Deployments – a request and reminder to please keep us fully informed whenever there are changes on the horizon in relation to postings and deployments. It's really helpful to know as early as possible if a child is likely to be leaving, please mention it to the office and the class teachers as soon as you are aware. Equally, in order that we can best support your children, please do let us know if a parent / carer is going to be away for any period, as this can sometimes unsettle our pupils.

Norovirus and Sickness – just a quick thank you to all parents who have followed our policy regarding pupils remaining off school for 48 hours after the last incident of sickness or diarrhoea. This is laid down by public health, and we appreciate the efforts parents have made to avoid the spread of 'bugs' in school.

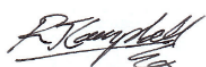
Friends of School – our thanks to Mrs. Gaulder and her team for all their hard work around the Christmas Fayre and the raffle. I think we've yet to determine the final amount raised by these, but we really appreciate the work the Friends do, and your support as parents for their events.

Staff changes – as mentioned in the last newsletter, we are saying 'goodbye' to some wonderful members of staff – the long serving Mrs. Brightman (28 years!) and Mrs. Holland (18 years), as well as Mrs. Lodge, and Mrs. Gittins, who will all be moving on to pastures new. We wish them all the very best with their new posts / retirement, and are very grateful for all they've done for the school.

And Finally...

I was treated the other day to a delivery of 'rainbow meringues' by Ada Woodward that she'd baked herself. This rather puts me to shame, as the only thing I've ever managed to bake was flapjack. And I burnt that.

Have a blessed Christmas,



Rob Campbell